

# W E A

4. Causing weariness; tirefome.  
Their gates to all were open evermore  
That by the weary way were travelling,  
And one fat waiting ever them before  
To call in comers by that needy were and poor. *Fa. Queen.*  
The weary and most loathed life  
That age, ach, penury, imprisonment,  
Can lay on nature, is a paradise  
To what we fear of death. *Shakespeare.*  
Put on what weary negligence you please,  
You and your fellows; I'd have it come to question. *Shak.*  
WEA' SEL. *n. f.* [pejel, Saxon; *wesjel*, Dutch; *myfela*, Latin.]  
A small animal that eats corn and kills mice.  
Ready in gybes, quick-answer'd, saucy, and  
As quarrelsome as the *wesjel*. *Shakespeare's Cymbeline.*  
A *wesjel* once made shift to sink  
In a corn loft through a chink. *Pope.*  
WE' SAND. *n. f.* [pajen, Saxon.] This word is very variously  
written; but this orthography is nearest to the original word.  
The windpipe; the passage through which the breath is drawn  
and emitted.  
Marry Diggon, what should him affray,  
To take his own where-ever it lay;  
For had his *wesjel* been a little wider,  
He would have devoured both hider and shidder. *Spenser.*  
Cut his *wesjel* with thy knife. *Shakespeare's Tempest.*  
Matter to be discharged by expectoration must pass into  
the lungs, then into the aspera arteria, or *wesjel*, and  
from thence be coughed up and spit out by the mouth. *Wifem.*  
The shaft that slightly was imprest'd,  
Now from his heavy fall with weight increas'd,  
Drove through his neck afloat; he spurns the ground,  
And the soul issues through the *wesjel*'s wound. *Dryden.*  
The unerring steel descended while he spoke,  
Pierc'd his wide mouth, and through his *wesjel* broke. *Dryden.*  
WEATHER. *n. f.* [peben, Saxon.]  
1. State of air, respecting either cold or heat, wet or drifels.  
Who's there, besides foul weather?—One mended like the  
weather, most unquietly. *Shakespeare. King Lear.*  
I am far better born than is the king;  
But I must make fair weather yet a while,  
Till Henry be more weak and I more strong. *Shakespeare.*  
Men must content themselves to travel in all weathers,  
and through all difficulties. *L'Estrange.*  
The sun  
Foretells the change of weather in the skies,  
Through mists he shoots his fullen beams,  
Suspect a drifling day. *Dryden.*  
2. The change of the state of the air.  
It is a reverend thing to see an ancient castle not in decay;  
how much more to behold an ancient family, which have stood  
against the waves and weathers of time? *Bacon.*  
3. Tempest; storm.  
What gusts of weather from that gathering cloud,  
My thoughts preface. *Dryden's Virgil.*  
To WEATHER. *v. a.* [from the noun.]  
1. To expose to the air.  
He perch'd on some branch thereby,  
To weather him and his moist wings to dry. *Spenser.*  
Mustard-seed gather for being too ripe,  
And weather it wel, yer ye give it a stripe. *Tusser.*  
2. To pass with difficulty.  
He weather'd fell Charibdis; but ere long,  
The skies were darkened, and the tempests strong. *Garth.*  
Could they weather and stand the shock of an eternal dura-  
tion, and yet be at any time subject to a dissolution. *Hale.*  
3. To WEATHER a point. To gain a point against the wind;  
to accomplish against opposition.  
We have been tugging a great while against the stream, and  
have almost weather'd our point; a stretch or two more will  
do the work. *Addison.*  
4. To WEATHER out. To endure.  
When we have pass'd these gloomy hours,  
And weather'd out the storm that beats upon us. *Addison.*  
WEATHERBEATEN. *adj.* Harassed and seasoned by hard wea-  
ther.  
They perceived an aged man and a young, both poorly ar-  
rayed, extremely weatherbeaten; the old man blind, the young  
man leading him. *Sidney.*  
She enjoys sure peace for evermore,  
As weatherbeaten ship arrived on happy shore. *Fairy Queen.*  
Thrice from the banks of Wye,  
And sandy bottom'd Severn, have I sent  
Him bootless home, and weatherbeaten back. *Shak. H. IV.*  
I hope when you know the worst, you will at once leap  
into the river, and swim through handiely, and not wea-  
therbeaten with the divers blasts of irresolution, stand shivering  
upon the brink. *Suckling.*  
A weatherbeaten vessel holds  
Gladly the port. *Milton.*

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- Dido received his weatherbeaten troops. *Dryden's Virgil.*  
The old weatherbeaten soldier carries in his hand the Roman  
eagle. *Addison.*  
WEATHERBOARD, or Weatherbow. *n. f.* In the sea language,  
that side of a ship that is to the windward.  
WEATHERCOCK. *n. f.* [weather and cock.]  
1. An artificial cock set on the top of a spire, which by turn-  
ing shows the point from which the wind blows.  
But alas! the sun keeps his light, though thy faith be dark-  
ened; the rocks stand still, though thou change like a weather-  
cock. *Sidney.*  
A kingfisher hanged by the bill, converting the breast to  
that point of the horizon from whence the wind doth blow,  
is a very strange introducing of natural weathercocks. *Brown.*  
2. Any thing fickle and inconstant.  
Where had you this pretty weathercock?—I cannot tell  
what his name is my husband had him of. *Shakespeare.*  
He break my promise and abolve my vow!  
The word which I have given shall stand like fate,  
Not like the king's that weathercock of state. *Dryden.*  
WEATHERDRIVEN. *part.* Forced by storms or contrary winds.  
Philip, during his voyage towards Spain, was weather-  
driven into Weymouth. *Carver's Survey of Cornwall.*  
WEATHERGAUGE. *n. f.* [weather and gauge.] Any thing that  
shews the weather.  
To vere and tack, and steer a cause,  
Against the weathergauge of laws. *Hudibras.*  
WEATHERGLASS. *n. f.* [weather and glass.] A barometer.  
As in some weatherglass my love I hold,  
Which falls or rises with the heat or cold,  
I will be constant yet. *Dryden.*  
John's temper depended very much upon the air; his spi-  
rits rose and fell with the weatherglass. *Arbutnot.*  
We shall hardly wish for a perpetual equinox to have the  
charges of weatherglass; for the two equinoxes of our year  
are the most windy and tempestuous. *Bentley's Sermons.*  
WEATHERSAY. *n. f.* [weather and say.] A star-gazer; an  
astrologer; one that foretells the weather.  
And sooner may a gulling weather-say,  
By drawing forth heav'n's scheme tell certainly,  
What fashion'd hats or ruffs, or suits next year,  
Our giddy-headed antick youth will wear. *Donne.*  
WEATHERWISE. *adj.* [weather and wise.] Skillful in foretel-  
ling the weather.  
WEATHERWISER. *n. f.* [weather and wiser, Dutch; to show.]  
Any thing that foretells the weather.  
Most vegetables expand their flowers and down in warm  
sun shiny weather, and again close them toward the evening,  
or in rain, as is in the flowers of pimpernel, the opening  
and shutting of which are the countryman's weatherwiser.  
Derham's Physico-Theology.  
To WEAVE. *v. a.* Preterite *wove*, *woven*, *part. pass. woven*,  
*woven*; [pejan, Saxon; *woven*, Dutch.]  
1. To form by texture; to form by inserting one part of the  
materials within another.  
Here in her hairs  
The painter plays the spider, and hath woven  
A golden mesh to intrap the hearts of men,  
Faster than gnats in cobwebs. *Shakespeare.*  
The women wove hangings for the grove. *2 Kings xxiii. 7.*  
White seem'd her robes, yet woven so they were,  
As snow and gold together had been wrought. *Dryden.*  
These purple vests were woven by Dardan dames. *Dryden.*  
Dan Pope for thy misfortune griev'd,  
With kind concern and skill has woven'd  
A silken web; and ne'er shall fade  
Its colours; gently has he laid  
The mantle o'er thy sad distress:  
And Venus shall the texture bles. *Prior.*  
2. To unite by intermixture.  
When religion was woven into the civil government, and  
flourished under the protection of the emperors, mens thoughts  
and discourses were full of secular affairs; but in the three first  
centuries of christianity, men who embraced this religion  
had given up all their interests in this world, and lived in a  
perpetual preparation for the next. *Addison.*  
3. To interpose; to insert.  
The duke be here to-night! the better! best!  
This weaver itself perforce into my business. *Shakespeare.*  
To WEAVE. *v. n.* To work with a loom.  
WEAVER. *n. f.* [from weave.] One who makes threads into  
cloth.  
Upon these taxations,  
The clothiers all not able to maintain,  
The many to them longing, have put off  
The spinners, carders, fullers, weavers. *Shak. Hen. VIII.*  
My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle, and are spent  
without hope. *Joh. vii. 6.*  
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# W E D

- The weaver may cast religion upon what loom he please. *How.*  
Her flag aloft spreads ruffling to the wind,  
And sanguine streamers seem the flood to fire:  
The weaver charm'd with what his loom design'd,  
Goes on to see, and knows not to retire. *Dryden.*  
WEAVERFISH. *n. f.* [araneus piscis, Latin.] A fish. *Addison.*  
WEB. *n. f.* [pebba, Saxon.]  
1. Texture; any thing woven.  
Penelope, for her Ulysses' sake,  
Devis'd a web her woovers to deceive;  
In which the work that she all day did make,  
The fame at night she did again unweave. *Spenser.*  
Spiders touch'd, seek their web's inmost part. *Davies.*  
By day the web and loom,  
And homely household talk shall be her doom. *Dryden.*  
The fates, when they this happy web have spun,  
Shall bles the sacred clue and bid it smoothly run. *Dryden.*  
A silken web; and ne'er shall fade  
Its colours. *Prior.*  
2. Some part of a sword. Obsolete.  
The sword, whereof the web was steel;  
Pommel, rich stone; hilt, gold, approv'd by touch. *Fairf.*  
3. A kind of dufky film that hinders the sight; suffusion.  
This is the foul fibertigibbet; he gives the web and the pin,  
quints the eye, and makes the hairlip. *Shakespeare.*  
WEBBED. *adj.* [from web.] Joined by a film.  
Such as are whole-footed, or whose toes are webbed toge-  
ther, their legs are generally short, the most convenient size  
for swimming. *Derham's Physico-Theology.*  
WEBFOOTED. *adj.* [web and foot.] Palmipedous; having films  
between the toes.  
Webfooted fowls do not live constantly upon the land, nor  
fear to enter the water. *Ray on the Creation.*  
WEBSTER. *n. f.* [pebyrne, Saxon; a woman-weaver.] A  
weaver. Obsolete.  
After local names, the most in number have been derived  
from occupations; as Taylor, Webster, Wheeler. *Camden.*  
To WED. *v. a.* [pejan, Saxon.]  
1. To marry; to take for husband or wife.  
If one by one we wedded all the world,  
Or, from the all that are, took something good  
To make a perfect woman; the you kill'd  
Would be unparallel'd. *Shakespeare.*  
Never did thy beauty, since the day  
I saw thee first, and wedded thee, adorn'd  
With all perfection, so inflame my senses.  
Cleo, blind to wit and worth,  
Weds the rich dullness of some son of earth. *Pope.*  
2. To join in marriage.  
In Syracuse was I born, and wed  
Unto a woman happy but for me. *Shakespeare.*  
Then I shall be no more;  
And Adam, wedded to another Eve,  
Shall live with her. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*  
The woman in us still prosecutes a deceit like that begun  
in the garden; and our understandings are wedded to an Eve,  
as fatal as the mother of their miseries. *Glanville.*  
3. To unite for ever.  
Affliction is enamour'd of thy parts,  
And thou art wedded to calamity. *Shakespeare. Rom. and Jul.*  
4. To take for ever.  
Though the principal men of the house of commons were  
again elected to serve in this parliament, yet they were far  
from wedded the war, or taking themselves to be concerned  
to make good any declaration made by the former. *Clarendon.*  
They positively and concernedly wedded his cause. *Clarendon.*  
5. To unite by love or fondness.  
Men are wedded to their lusts, and resolved upon a wicked  
course; and so it becomes their interest to wish there were no  
God. *Tillotson's Sermons.*  
To WED. *v. n.* To contract matrimony.  
When I shall wed,  
That lord whose hand shall take my plight, shall carry  
Half my love with him, half my care and duty. *Shakespeare.*  
To love, to wed,  
For Hymen's rites, and for the marriage bed  
You were ordain'd. *Suckling.*  
Nor took I Guiscard, by blind fancy led,  
Or hasty choice as many women wed;  
But with deliberate care. *Dryden.*  
WEDDING. *n. f.* [from wed.] Marriage; nuptials; the nup-  
tial ceremony.  
Come, away!  
For you shall hence upon your wedding-day. *Shakespeare.*  
I will dance and eat plums at your wedding. *Shakespeare.*  
Let her beauty be her wedding dower;  
For me and my possessions the effects not. *Shakespeare.*  
When my son was entered into his wedding-chamber, he  
fell down and died. *2 Esdr. x. 1.*  
These three country bills agree, that each wedding produ-  
ces four children. *Graunt's Bills of Mortality.*

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- His friends were invited to come and make merry with him;  
and this was to be the wedding-feast. *L'Estrange.*  
If she affirmed herself to be a virgin, she must on her wed-  
ding-day, and in her wedding cloaths perform the ceremony  
of going alone into the den, and stay an hour with the lion.  
*Swift.*  
A woman seldom asks advice before she has bought her wed-  
ding-cloaths. *Spectator.*  
WEDGE. *n. f.* [wegge, Danish; wegge, Dutch.]  
1. A body, which having a sharp edge, continually growing  
thicker, is used to cleave timber; one of the mechanical powers.  
A barbarous troop of clownish fone,  
The honour of these noble bows down threw;  
Under the wedge I heard the trunk to groan. *Spenser.*  
The fifth mechanical faculty is the wedge used in the clea-  
ving of wood. *Wilkins's Mathematical Magick.*  
He left his wedge within the cloven oak  
To whet their courage. *Dryden's Æneid.*  
The oak let many a heavy groan, when he was cleft with a  
wedge of his own timber. *Arbutnot's Hist. of John Bull.*  
2. A mass of metal.  
As sparks from the anvil used to fly,  
When heavy hammers on the wedge are swaid. *Fa. Qu.*  
When I saw a goodly Babylonish garment, and a wedge of  
gold of fifty shekels weight, then I coveted them. *Josh. vii.*  
3. Any thing in the form of a wedge.  
In warlike multers they appear,  
In rhombs and wedges and half-moons and wings. *Milton.*  
To WEDGE. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To fasten with wedges;  
to straiten with wedges; to cleave with wedges; to stop; to  
obstruct.  
My heart,  
As wedged with a sigh would rive in twain,  
Left Hector, or my father, should perceive me. *Shakespeare.*  
Where have you been broiling?—  
—Among the crowd i' the abbey, where a finger  
Could not be wedg'd in more. *Shakespeare's Henry VIII.*  
Your wit will not so soon out as another man's will; it is  
strongly wedged up in a blockhead. *Shakespeare.*  
Part  
In common, rang'd in figure wedge their way;  
Intelligent of seasons. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*  
Sergeffus in the centaur, soon he pass'd,  
Wedg'd in the rocky shoals and sticking fast. *Dryden.*  
Wedge on the keenest scythes,  
And give us steeds that snort against the foe. *A. Phillips.*  
What impulse can be propagated from one particle, entomb'd  
and wedged in the very center of the earth, to another in the  
center of Saturn. *Bentley's Sermons.*  
WEDLOCK. *n. f.* [peb and lac, Sax. marriage and gift.] Mar-  
riage; matrimony.  
She doth stray about  
By holy crosses, where she kneels and prays  
For happy wedlock hours. *Shakespeare.*  
Sirrah, your brother is legitimate;  
Your father's wife did after wedlock bear him:  
And if she did play false, the fault was her's. *Shakespeare.*  
Can wedlock know so great a curse,  
As putting husbands out to nurse. *Cleaveland.*  
He his happiest choice too late,  
Shall meet already link'd, and wedlock-bound  
To a fell adversary. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*  
May not a prison or a grave,  
Like wedlock, honour's title have?  
One thought the sex's prime felicity  
Was from the bonds of wedlock to be free:  
And uncontrol'd to give account to none. *Dryden.*  
A man determined about the fiftieth year of his age to en-  
ter upon wedlock. *Addison.*  
WEDNESDAY. *n. f.* [robeny-day, Saxon; *aden/day*, Swedish;  
*wen/day*, Dutch; *wen/day*, Islandic.] The fourth day of  
the week, so named by the Gothick nations from Woden or  
Odin.  
Where is the honour of him that died on wednesday. *Shak.*  
WEE. *adj.* [A Saxon word of the same root with weeing, Dutch;  
*wenig*, German.] Little; small: whence the word *weasel* or  
*wesjel* is used for little; as a *wesjel* face. In Scotland it de-  
notes small or little; as *wee* ane, a little one, or child; a *wee*  
bit, a little bit.  
Does he not wear a great round beard, like a glover's pa-  
ring knife?—No, forsooth; he hath but a little *wee* face with  
a little yellow beard. *Shakespeare. Merry Wives of Windsor.*  
WEECHELM. *n. f.* [This is often written *witch elm*.] A spec-  
ies of elm.  
A cion of a *weechelm* grafted upon an ordinary elm, will put  
forth leaves as broad as the brim of a hat. *Bacon.*  
WEED. *n. f.* [peob, Saxon; tares.]  
1. An herb noxious or useless.  
If he had an immoderate ambition; which is a weed, if it be  
a weed, apt to grow in the best soils, it doth not appear that  
it was in his nature. *Clarendon.*  
He